IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

:

Kanji HATA et al.

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Serial No. NEW

: Attn: Application Branch

Filed February 22, 2002

Attorney Docket No. 2002_0244

COMPONENT MOUNTING APPARATUS AND METHOD (Rule 1.53(b) Continuation-in-Part of Serial No. 09/010,490, Filed January 21, 1998)

THE COMMISSIONER IS AUTHORIZED TO CHARGE ANY DEFICIENCY IN THE FEES FOR THIS PAPER TO DEPOSIT ACCOUNT NO. 23-0975

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

Kindly amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the paragraph [0001], with the following rewritten paragraph:

This application is a continuation-in-part of co-pending application Serial No. 09/010,490, filed January 21, 1998, which is a continuation of Serial No. 08/740,992, filed November 5, 1996, now Patent No. 5,778,525.